

Year in Review

Randolph Air Force Base

December 29, 2006

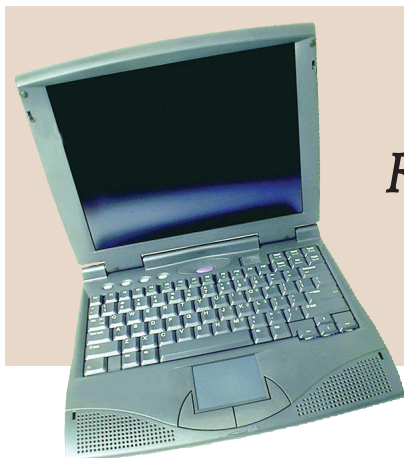
2006

Training the world's finest
Airmen for tomorrow...
Deploying combat-ready
warriors today.

12th Flying Training Wing Mission Statement



See inside for
the year's
biggest events



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Randolph AFB home page
at www.randolph.af.mil

AIR AND SPACE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

Randolph Air Force Base
deployed between 100
to 210 Airmen in support
of military operations
around the globe
throughout 2006.



January



The main gate reopened Jan. 6 after almost two years of construction. The project included complete rebuilding of Harmon Drive and resetting the avenue of state flags down the middle of the drive. A new visitor's center and vehicle inspection facility were also erected and began operations in June. (Photo by Steve White)



The New Year opened with a high profile visit to the base by President George W. Bush on Air Force One. The President was in San Antonio to visit with wounded warriors at Brooke Army Medical Center. This was his second time on the base in three months as he continued his visits with wounded servicemembers. (Photo by Rich McFadden)

Other January happenings...

□ The Rendezvous Dining Facility garnered the title of Air Education and Training Command's Best Small Dining Facility.

□ The Randolph Child Development Center received a new \$300,000 playground complete with a miniature replica of the base's landmark building, the "Taj Mahal."

□ Randolph Airmen geared up for deployments across the world. More than 100 Airmen were deployed by the end of the month.



Col.
Richard Clark



Chief Master Sgt.
Stephen Page

New leadership took the reigns of the 12th Flying Training Wing in January. Col. Richard Clark, former vice commander of the wing, took command from Col. John Hesterman in a ceremony Jan. 20 and Chief Master Sgt. Stephen Page took over as wing command chief.



John Arnold, left, Jose Arispe, above right, and Ralph Johnston complete a check of a T-6 Texan II engine in Hangar 40. The 12th Maintenance Directorate was presented top honors in the Air Education and Training Command 2005 Maintenance Effectiveness Awards competition in January. (Photo by Steve White)



Charlie Moore, 12th Logistics Readiness Division automotive mechanic, drills out a fitting to repair a base vehicle. The 12th Logistics Division's Vehicle Management Flight completed its conversion to a fully civilian force, as did the 12th Operations Support Squadron Airfield Operations Flight. (Photo by Steve White)



February

Other February happenings...

□ It was touted as the most significant change in the civilian personnel system in more than 30 years when it was introduced to the first 33 people selected here for training in the National Security Personnel System. Eventually nearly 700,000 Department of Defense civilians employed worldwide will have their status converted to the new pay and career management system.

□ In another major personnel system change, the Air Force announced that all active duty Reserve officer commissions would be converted to regular commissions by May 1. This change is mandated by law and DoD policy for all military services.

□ The Air Force's famous Tops in Blue performance team capped the month with a concert in Hangar 4. Among the performers was the 12th FTW's own Senior Airman Timothy Vidal, a saxophonist.

□ Headquarters Air Education and Training Command completed its change to match the Air Force lead in identifying various offices by the joint staff terminology, A1 through A9.

March



Other March happenings...

- The base launched a new policy in accordance with the Department of Defense, banning cell phone use while driving unless using a hands-free device.
- The 12th Comptroller Squadron introduced the first five base organizations to the Defense Travel System; a Department of Defense automated system that consolidates travel for all four military branches. The transition to the new system continued through December.
- Rob Thomas took over as the Air Force Personnel Center executive director.
- The 560th Flying Training Squadron hosted the 33rd annual Freedom Flyers Reunion March 31 with a symposium of former Vietnam Prisoners of War and family members. Twenty-five of the former POWs who later completed flight requalification training in the 560th FTS were in attendance.



Thomas Mott races through the bouncy obstacle course at the Randolph Fam-A-Ganza celebration April 8 at the youth center. More than 3,000 people attended the annual event which celebrates the Month of the Military Child. (Photo by Steve White)



April

Other April happenings...

- Randolph organizations and residents rolled up their sleeves to help clean and refurbish the base during the 10th Annual I Love Randolph Week April 10-14. The 12th Civil Engineer Division sponsors the annual event.
- More than 800 people participated in the base’s annual car show April 9.
- Hank Polk of Air Education and Training Command volunteered for a four-month deployment to Southwest Asia, becoming the first Air Force communications and information civilian to volunteer for a required Air and Space Expeditionary Force deployment position usually filled by a military member.
- Randolph exceeded its Air Force Assistance Fund campaign goal by 185 percent. More than \$160,000 was raised for the charities that directly support Air Force members.



Commissary employee David Almendarez inspects bell peppers at the commissary Dec. 22. The 20-month expansion and renovation of the base commissary came to an end when it reopened in March with a fanfare of door prizes and discount specials. The store space increased by 48,000 square feet. (Photo by Melissa Peterson)



May

Other May happenings...

□ Fifty-seven Randolph Airmen graduated from the Community College of the Air Force in a special ceremony May 2.

□ More than 100 base families ventured out to the Randolph Recreational Area at Canyon Lake for the annual Spring Fling event.



Chaplain (Capt.) Dan Giorgi of the 12th Flying Training Wing places a Bible in the rucksack of Capt. Emil Rebik of Iraqi Assistance Group Foxtrot during training at Fort Hood, Texas, May 8. A Randolph team spent a few days with team Foxtrot members in advance of their deployment to Iraq. (Photo by Master Sgt. Lee Roberts)



June



Lt. Col. David Freen of the 560th Flying Training Squadron shows Secretary of the Air Force Michael Wynne a T-38 Talon during the secretary's visit to Randolph June 1. (Photo by Joel Martinez)

Other June happenings...

□ The Randolph Enlisted Club was named best in the Air Force for 2005.

□ The Randolph Top Three hosted a luncheon to honor Army Air Corps Enlisted Pilots and their legacy June 13 at the enlisted club. About 190 people attended the event.

□ The Airmen's Attic went virtual with its own Web Site accessed by government computers only.



Staff Sgt. Bryan Hawk of the 12th Flying Training Wing paints a camouflage pattern on Gregory Hall's face during Operation Families Learning About Global Support June 9. More than 180 military children participated in the one-day event designed to teach them what their parents do to prepare for a deployment. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Lindsey Maurice)



July



Lt. Col. David Green, left, of the 560th Flying Training Squadron, shows Randolph youth Justin Frazier how to control a parachute. The 560th FTS gave Justin a tour of the base flying operations through the unit's Pilot for a Day program July 7. (Photo by Melissa Peterson)

Other July happenings...

□ Hundreds of families gathered on the south ramp to celebrate Independence Day. This was the first year the base could not have a fireworks display due to weather.

□ Brig. Gen. Suzanne Vautrinot took command of the Air Force Recruiting Service from Brig. Gen. Robertus Remkes during a ceremony July 17.



Brig. Gen. Suzanne Vautrinot



Nicole Floyd, a second year intern with the 12th Maintenance Division, makes an adjustment on a T-1A Jayhawk engine. The Judson High School graduate was one of six students to work on the Randolph flightline this year under supervision through the "grow your own mechanics program" run by the Alamo Area Aerospace Academy and St. Phillips College. (Photo by Steve White)



August & September



October



Airman 1st Class Matthew Miller, left, and Senior Airman Chad Thomas, base firefighters, carry an aircraft accident victim away from a simulated crash site during a major accident response exercise in August. (Photo by Steve White)

happenings continued...

□ The Randolph T-6A Texan II Demonstration Team closed out its four-year run as a premiere Air Education and Training Command entertainment group with its final show in Salinas, Calif., Sept. 30.

□ Plans were revealed for the base Vision 2030 concept that includes short term plans to improve the taxiways of the west runway, and long term plans of building a new command center, fire station and base exchange. The new fitness center is due to open in early 2007.

Other August and September happenings...

- Randolph led the Air Force in its conversion of Airmen's hard copy unit personnel record group files to electronic-only copies housed at the Air Force Personnel Center.
- Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley visited San Antonio to be the keynote speaker at the 2006 Air Force Ball Sept. 8. at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort.
- The 558th Flying Training Squadron, which dates back to World War II, was formally inactivated and its Airmen, aircraft and equipment transferred to the 559th FTS during a special ceremony Sept. 28.



Members of the Randolph Honor Guard stand in formation at the base Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Day ceremony Sept. 18. The Airmen performed a traditional rifle salute during the ceremony. (Photo by Rich McFadden)



Capt. Eric Doggett, left, of the 12th Mission Support Group works to pass 12th Flying Training Wing's Maj. Steve Hamlin in the last leg of the Rambler 120 Team Challenge Oct. 7 at Canyon Lake. The basewide competition included a 30-mile course of biking, running, rafting and tire rolling. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio)

Other October happenings...

- Maj. Gen. Irving Halter Jr. took command of 19th Air Force from Maj. Gen. Marc Rogers during a ceremony Oct. 3.
- Randolph enlisted members gathered at Eberle Park Oct. 13 for the first-ever Team Randolph Enlisted Fest.
- The Air Force Personnel Center named Chief Master Sgt. Terry Reed as its first command chief master sergeant.



Maj. Gen. Irving Halter Jr.

And the award goes to...



Maj. Gen. L. Dean Fox, Air Force civil engineer, pins the Purple Heart Medal on Senior Airman Dan Acosta during a ceremony in the base theater March 30. The general also presented the Bronze Star Medal to Airman Acosta. The explosive ordnance disposal Airman was injured last Dec. 7, 2005 in Iraq when a bomb went off near him while on a mission to disarm improvised explosive devices. He and his family are living at Randolph while he goes through treatment and physical therapy rehabilitation at Brooks Army Medical Center. (Photo by Steve White)



Lt. Col. Glenn Rattell

□ Colonel Rattell, Air Force Personnel Center, was awarded the Bronze Star for meritorious service while serving as the 506th Expeditionary Group deputy commander at Kirkuk Regional Air Base, Iraq.

□ Staff Sgt. Israel del Toro Jr. was awarded the Purple Heart in a special ceremony at Brooke Army Medical Center June 23, for injuries received while on patrol in Afghanistan in December 2005.

Team Randolph award winners...

- Rob Thomas, Air Force Personnel Center executive director, was honored with the rank of Meritorious Executive in the Senior Executive Service, a 2005 Presidential Rank Award.
- The American Academy of Ambulatory Nursing presented its 2005 Administrative Excellence Award to Lt. Col. Carol Andrews of the 12th Medical Group.
- John Bock, 12th Operations Support Squadron, was named the 2005 Air Force Outstanding Aircrew Life Support Civilian of the Year, Category II.
- David Rodriguez of the 12th Operations Support Squadron was named the Air Force Aviation Resource Management Journeyman Civilian for 2005.
- Master Sgt. Roy Bowser, enlisted aide to Air Education and Training Command commander Gen. William Looney III, was recognized as the Air Force Enlisted Aide of the Year for the Senior Aide category.
- Master Sgts. Jimmy Jones and Charles Mills, Tech. Sgt. Adalberto Velez, Sandra Reeh and Lesley Castillo were each honored with Air Force-level mission support awards.
- Robert Vickers of the 12th Security Forces Squadron was named Air Force Security Forces Civilian Employees of the Year.
- Barbara Wrinkle of the Air Force Services Agency and Lester Coalson of the Air Education and Training Command were each presented 2005 Air Force Services Awards.
- Senior Airman Christine Steimle, 12th Medical Group, was named the Air Force Aerospace Medicine Expeditionary Readiness Airman of the Year.
- Frank Robert was named the Randolph Volunteer of the Year. Tamara Austin was named the Randolph Youth Center's Youth of the Year and Criscinda Rivera was honored as the Randolph Family Child Care Provider of the Year.

In Memory of:

Justin Frasier and Maj. Todd Valentine

October happenings continued...

- The 100th Flying Training Squadron rolled out aircraft carrying the red tail flash marking their heritage as a descendent of the famous World War II Tuskegee Airmen.
- The 12th Services Division was selected for the Air Education and Training Command 2006 Outstanding Service Unit Award for the large base category.
- Randolph High School formally opened its new \$3.5 million Fine Arts Center. At 18,000 square feet, it houses facilities for both instrumental and choral music and the art program.

Other November happenings...

- The Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals mission returned to Randolph with the arrival of AT-38C aircraft of the 435th Flying Training Squadron from its former location at Moody Air Force Base, Ga.
- The 12th Civil Engineer Directorate Fire and Emergency Services Flight won the 2006 AETC Chief Master Sgt. Ralph E. Sanborn Award as the best flight in the command.

December



Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Rodney McKinley talks with members of the Randolph Honor Guard over lunch at the enlisted club during his visit to the base Dec. 7. (Photo by Steve White)



November



Students and staff from the 562nd Flying Training Squadron celebrate Wingman Day with a fun run around the base in November. The purpose of the observance was to build unit camaraderie. (Photo by Javier Garcia)

Other December happenings...

- The 12th Medical Group's Health and Wellness Center won the 2006 Air Education and Training Command Best Small Base Award for Health Promotions Programs.
- The 12th Medical Group pharmacy wrapped up a six-week major renovation project.
- The 12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs office announced its plans to go 100 percent virtual with its news, unveiling the new base public Web site and putting out the last 2006 issue of the Wingspread Dec. 22.



Staff Sgt. Michael Garrett of the 12th Security Forces Squadron hugs his wife, Lauri, upon returning with a team of 17 other 12th SFS members from a six-month deployment. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio)



Paul Graham, 12th Comptroller/Mission Support Squadron forward, scores two in the paint in front of Marcus Pendleton (No. 13) of the Air Force Personnel Center and CPTS/MSS teammate Angelo Mitchell. The CPTS/MSS team defeated AFPC 48-30 for the intramural championship. (Photo by Steve White)

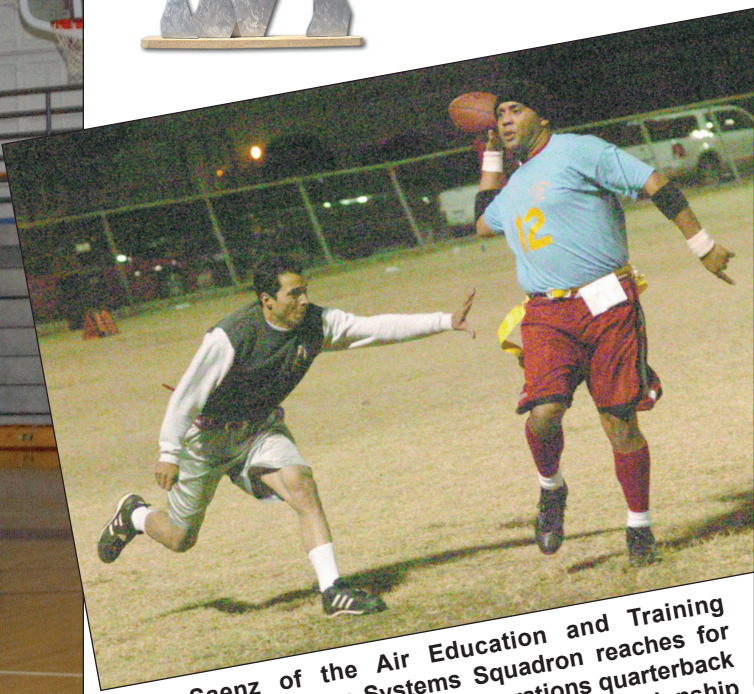


Janea Childress of the Air Force Occupational Measurement Squadron connects with the ball during the Randolph Extramural Softball championship game Sept. 15. AFOMS defeated the Air Force Personnel Center 13-4 for the title Sept. 15 at Yankee Field. (Photo by Steve White)

We are the champions...



Intramural, extramural season winners



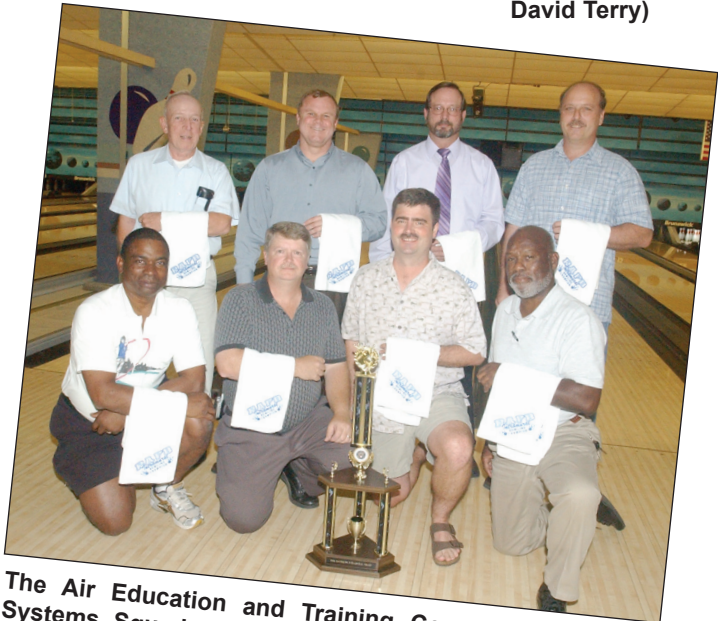
Omar Saenz of the Air Education and Training Command Computer Systems Squadron reaches for the flag of AETC Directorate of Operations quarterback Darryl Brown during the flag football championship game. AETC/CSS won the game 19-13 in overtime. (Photo by Steve White)



Joe Cua of the 12th Mission Support/Comptroller Squadron blocks a shot during the intramural volleyball championship game June 6. MSS/CPTS defeated AETC for the title. (Photo by David Terry)



Bret Robinson of the AETC Communications Directorate and Computer Systems Squadron combined team tees off on the par 5 second hole during the extramural golf championship March 14. AETC SC/CSS beat the 12th Logistics Readiness Division 3.5 to 2.5 to win the winter golf season playoffs. (Photo by Steve White)



The Air Education and Training Command Computer Systems Squadron was presented the 2006 Randolph Intramural Bowling League championship trophy in May. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Beth Del Vecchio)

Other winners...

□ The AETC Directorate of Personnel defeated the Air Force Services Agency 39-34 in the extramural basketball championship March 30.

□ The 562nd Flying Training Squadron Students defeated the 12th Communications Squadron 17-14 for the intramural softball championship title Aug. 30.

□ The AETC golf team walked away with the Intramural Golf Championship crown, defeating the 19th Air Force team in the final playoff with a final score of 7.5 to 4.5.